

GEORGE A. ROMERO

ACT THREE

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANDREA MUTTI

005 **MARVEL**

EMPIRE OF THE DEAD



**PARENTAL
ADVISORY!
NOT FOR KIDS!**

A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THE UNDEAD MENACE FIRST BEGAN TERRORIZING THE WORLD. UNDER **MAYOR CHANDRAKE**'S LEADERSHIP, NEW YORK CITY HAS BECOME A FORTRESS OF ISOLATION AGAINST THE UNDEAD PLAGUE.

CHANDRAKE'S GUIDANCE HAS ALLOWED US, NEW YORK'S SECRET CABAL OF VAMPIRES, TO RETAIN OUR POWER AND CONTROL. DESPITE ALL CHANDRAKE HAS DONE FOR US, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE HIM BROUGHT LOW. RUMORS OF DISCORD AMONGST CHANDRAKE'S HAREM OF WIVES, PARTICULARLY **LILITH**, AROUND. **CHILLY DOBBS**, ONCE ONE OF US, IS RUNNING AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN BANKROLLED BY **RUNYON**, WHO IS RUMORED TO HAVE ESCAPED THE CITY DURING THE RECENT REBEL ATTACKS.

ALTHOUGH SCIENTIST **PENNY JONES** HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES IN HER ATTEMPT TO "TAME" THE UNDEAD, HER ASSOCIATION WITH **PAUL BARNUM**, WHO TRAINS THE ZOMBIE GLADIATORS FOR THE ARENA, HAS PROVEN PROBLEMATIC. BARNUM HAS DISCOVERED OUR...FOOD FARM UPSTATE, WHICH IS VITAL TO THE CONTINUING STRENGTH OF OUR VAMPIRE COALITION.

KEEP NEW YORK SAFE. KEEP NEW YORK OURS. SPREAD THE WORD AND VOTE CHANDRAKE!



THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT MAYOR CHANDRAKE MEMBERS:

GEORGE ROMERO WRITER **ANDREA MUTTI** PENCILER

ROBERTO POGGI INKER **RAIN BEREDO** COLOR ARTIST

VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER **FRANCESCA MATTINA** COVER ARTIST

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NEAR TARRYTOWN.

HELMETS...
ON.

HELMETS WILL
KEEP YOU SAFE.
WHEN WE GO INTO
THE FIGHT. FIGHT.
UNDERSTAND?

XAVIER

FIGHT.

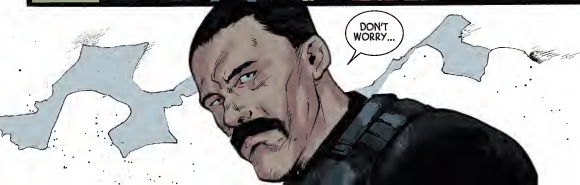
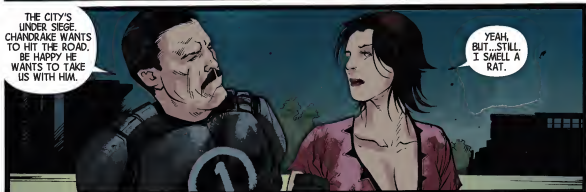
JUST
LIKE IN
THE ARENA.
FIGHT.
FIGHT!

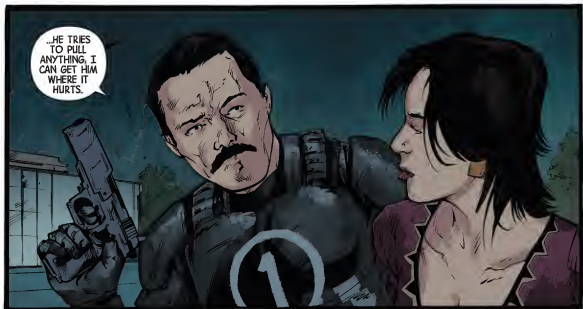
FOR
JO. DON'T
FORGET. FIGHT TO
GET LITTLE JO
BACK.

LITTLE JO. GET...BACK.

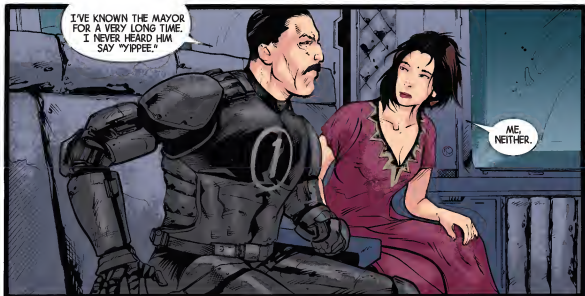


TETERBORO AIRPORT.



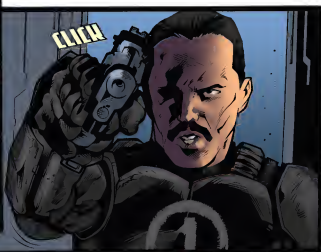








WHO ARE YOU?



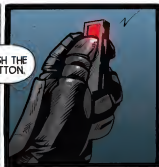
STOP. STOP!
I'M CHANDRAKE'S
DOUBLE. IN CASE
SOMETHIN' BAD HAPPENS,
I TAKE IT IN THE ASS
'STEAD OF HIM.



TURN
THIS PLANE
AROUND!

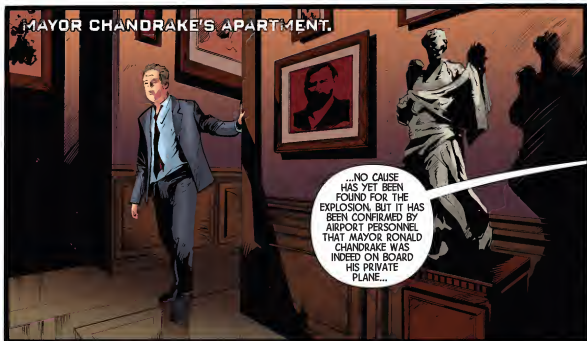


GET
US BACK ON
THE GROUND!
FAST!





MAYOR CHANDRAKE'S APARTMENT.



...NO CAUSE HAS YET BEEN FOUND FOR THE EXPLOSION, BUT IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY AIRPORT PERSONNEL THAT MAYOR RONALD CHANDRAKE WAS INDEED ON BOARD HIS PRIVATE PLANE...



...ALONG WITH HIS WIFE, LILITH, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF.

DAMN. WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

IS THAT YOU MR. DOBBS?



YEAH. HOW'D YOU KNOW?

I ASSUMED YOU'D BE COMING TO, ER... ASSUME... THE OFFICE.



HELLO. I'M MINDY GREEN.

I'VE BEEN MANAGING THE MAYOR'S P.R. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. I HOPE YOU'LL WANT TO KEEP ME ON... NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN ELECTED.

WAIT. ELECTED?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR? CHANDRAKE WENT DOWN IN FLAMES. LITERALLY. NOBODY ELSE HAS BEEN RUNNING, SO...

CONGRATULATIONS, MISTER MAYOR!

GOVERNMENT FARM.
UPSTATE NEW YORK.

I'M GONNA
HAFTA GO OUT
THERE.

NO!
WHY?

GOTTA
CONVINCE
THEM THAT
WE'RE
LEGIT.

DON'T
WORRY. I'LL
BE OKAY. JUST
STAY ON THE
BUS UNTIL IT'S
TIME.

SLIPSHOD,
LEMMIE OUTTA
THIS CRATE.

HEY, GUARD! YOU
KNOW ME, RIGHT?
I'M THE GUY WHO RUINS
THE CIRCUS. OPEN UP.
I GOT A BUNCH A NEW
RECRUITS FOR YOUR
FUNNY FARM.

LET HIM
IN.















